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Summary record of the 29th meeting
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Chairman: Mr. Vassallo (Vice-Chairman) ..... (Malta)

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In the absence of Mr. Kiwanuka (Uganda), Mr. Vassallo (Malta), Vice-Chairman, took the Chair.

The meeting was called to order at 10.25 a.m.

Agenda item 86: Comprehensive review of the whole question of peacekeeping operations in all their aspects (*continued*) (A/55/977, A/55/1024, A/C.4/55/L.23 and A/C.4/55/L.24)

1. **Mr. Haggag** (Egypt), speaking on behalf of the Rapporteur, introduced the report of the Special Committee on Peacekeeping Operations (A/55/1024), which requested the Security Council to consider implementing the recommendations of the Panel on United Nations Peace Operations (A/55/305-S/2000/809) aimed at strengthening cooperation with the troop-contributing countries and to give serious and timely consideration to proposals for a new mechanism of consultation with those countries.

2. The Special Committee welcomed the report of the Secretary-General (A/55/977), which contained a comprehensive review of the Secretariat's capacity in the area of peacekeeping and was recommending a number of measures, including the creation of a post of Director of Management in the Office of the Under-Secretary-General and the strengthening of the front offices of the Assistant Secretaries-General. It asked the Secretary-General to consider creating a capability for information analysis in the Department of Peacekeeping Operations or in his Executive Office. While it supported the upgrading of the Mine Action Service, the creation of a limited capability in the Civilian Police Division to assist on criminal law and judicial issues (para. 78) and the reorganization of the Field Administration and Logistics Division, and called for additional staff for the Claims and Information Management Section, the Special Committee had also invited the Secretary-General to elaborate on the necessity for a third Assistant Secretary-General.

3. He drew attention to the Special Committee's comments regarding mission support and rapid deployment (paras. 63-70), and the need to further strengthen civilian recruitment processes including through the creation of a new section in the restructured Personnel Management and Support Service (para. 71). All in all, the Special Committee recognized the need for sufficient resources for all those departments and offices playing a role in peacekeeping support.

4. On the key issue of the safety and security of United Nations and associated personnel, the report called for better information collection, analysis and dissemination at Headquarters and in the field, greater sharing of "best practices", improved preparation of personnel, and it supported the recommendations from the International Civil Aviation Organization's review of air operations. It also recommended that more attention be given to security issues by the Secretariat in the planning phase of operations and by the Security Council when formulating mandates.

5. Recognizing the contribution that could be made by regional organizations, the Special Committee looked forward to the establishment of a group on the enhancement of African peacekeeping capacity and encouraged all efforts to increase cooperation between the United Nations and the Organization of African Unity, soon to be the African Union.

6. Finally, among other things, the Special Committee stressed the importance of gender awareness for peacekeeping personnel, suggested that consideration be given to the possibility of establishing a small support secretariat to service the Executive Committee on Peace and Security, and emphasized the importance attached by Member States to consultation on allegations of misconduct and the observance of international humanitarian law.

7. **The Chairman** drew attention to draft resolution A/C.4/55/L.23 and to the statement on the programme budget implications thereof (A/C.4/55/L.24).

8. **Mr. Sinha** (India), supported by **Mr. Musonda** (Zambia), said that, after a careful reading of the programme budget implications, he trusted that the Special Committee's recommendations concerning the strengthening of offices outside the Department (A/55/1024, para. 85) would be taken fully into account when resource requirements were being calculated.

9. *The draft resolution was adopted.*

10. **Mr. Guehenno** (Under-Secretary-General for Peacekeeping Operations) welcomed the report of the Special Committee as a clear, strong and extremely timely statement of support and pledged to pursue close cooperation in enhancing United Nations peacekeeping.

11. **The Chairman** declared that the Fourth Committee had completed its work for the fifty-fifth session.

The meeting rose at 10.40 a.m.